

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 /077 W

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R 220921Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2956

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 17026

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK

SUBJ: INDO-PAK RELATIONS

1. POL COUNSELOR TALKED BRIEFLY WITH MEA JOINT SECRETARY (PAK/AFGHAN) CHIB DEC 21 AND ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF INDO-PAK EXCHANGE ON CIVIL AIR PROBLEM. CHIB ACKNOWLEDGED GOI HAD RECEIVED GOP LETTER CONVEYING ESSENTIALLY THE SAME POINTS AS HAD BEEN MADE TO INDIANS IN NEW YORK. MEA RESPONSE WILL GO FORWARD IN NEXT FEW DAYS. CHIB WAS RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS GOI REPLY BUT SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF "NUANCES" WHICH REMAINED TO BE CLARIFIED AND THAT THE TIME WAS CLEARLY NOT YET RIPE FOR A MEETING TO RESOLVE THE CIVIL AVIATION ISSUE. CHIB REVERTED TO AN EARLIER METAPHOR, NOTING THAT THERE WERE "NODAL POINTS" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES AT WHICH DIFFICULT PROBLEMS COULD BE RESOLVED. SUCH A NODAL POINT HAD EXISTED EARLIER THIS YEAR FOR INDIA AND PAKISTAN BUT HAD PASSED AND BOTH SIDES WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE RIGHT TIME TO COME AGAIN. IN THE MEANWHILE, OTHER LESS DIFFICULT ISSUES COULD BE
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WORKED ON. THE INDIAN TRADE TEAM TO PAKISTAN IN

JANUARY WOULD PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENLARGE
ECONOMIC LINKS AND A PAKISTAN P&T TEAM HAD BEEN
INVITED TO INDIA TO DISCUSS SOME TECHNICAL
PROBLEMS IN TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINKS.

2. COMMENT: WE CONTINUE TO ASSUME THAT THE "NUANCES"
REFERRED TO BY CHIB ARE SIMPLY ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING
THAT THE INDIANS CONTINUE TO WANT TO WATCH BANGLADESH
DEVELOPMENTS FOR A WHILE BEFORE OPENING UP THE WAY
TO PAK AIR LINKS WITH DACCA.
SAXBE

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